PARTNERS
V3 NEW ELIGIBILITY SYSTEM

Project Update

The Implementation Team is working to review the Test Cases and Scenarios prepared by Vitech, preparing for Internal Training Sessions, and developing our User Acceptance Testing Plan. Should any of you wish to submit scenarios for testing, please feel free to e-mail any member of the Implementation Team with your ideas.

Development work on the Design Specifications is continuing and new releases of the V3 Java application reflect the work accomplished thus far. Vitech, as of January 9, has commenced Systems Testing. At this time, however, we believe that both systems testing and user acceptance testing may take longer than originally planned. It is probable that the go-live date for Phase 1 of the project may be delayed.

During this month project leadership will be transitioning from Jim Aliffi to Gelane Hamilton. You may also notice that Carl Line and Linda Stone have been added to the Implementation Team as points of contact. Carl has taken over responsibility as the Team Lead for interfaces and conversion while Kenneth will concentrate on training and testing. Linda will be serving on Kenneth's team and assisting with training. Gelane, Carl, and Linda are powerful additions to the team and bring their many years of systems and SHBP business knowledge with them.

On a personal note, it is with mixed emotions that I leave this Project. It is hard for me to express how proud I am of the accomplishments of this team. Susie, Janet, Kenneth, Patti, Laura, Cheryl, Mike and Marla have worked incredibly hard in representing the best interests of SHBP, DCH, and the State of Georgia. I want to thank them publicly and express my gratitude for their dedication, perseverance, and, most of all, their sense of humor.

HPAS Employer Training

HPAS employer training preparation is in progress for trainers to travel to various locations in the state of Georgia and provide training to payroll location personnel. Training the payroll location personnel on using the HPAS system is a significant part of the implementation process. While instructor-led hands on training will be provided, each trainee must take the initiative prior to attending class to complete the Employer Web-based tutorial. This tutorial will be available online and will introduce the basic functionality of the system to each user. It should take from 60- 90 minutes to complete the tutorial. The instructor-led class will go into more depth on some of the functions that payroll location personnel will perform. Two people from each employer, preferably an HR person (e.g., Benefits Coordinator) and an Accounting person are requested to attend the training. Trainees will be able to go online to select a location and register for the class. Each employer will be notified on when the training registration begins. The training is scheduled to start after the HPAS system is implemented.

If you have any questions about training, please contact Marla Headd.

Interface Testing

In order to fully test the new Health Plan Administration System (HPAS), it will be necessary to exchange test files with payroll locations. There will be two phases where test files will be exchanged with outside parties – System Testing and User Acceptance Testing. System Testing is when our contractor, Vitech, will fully test the system – executing all DCH business processes from end-to-end with various test data; this is the final test phase for Vitech before the system is delivered to DCH for User Acceptance Testing (UAT). UAT is similar to System Testing but in this phase DCH and our partners are able to fully test the system in preparation for system "go-live".

During the testing phases actual files will be received and transmitted from HPAS – just as will occur in the final production environment. The purpose of transmitting test files is to ensure that the interface files meet the detailed design specifications, ensure that any data updated by the interfaces interacts with the V3 benefits application; and ensure that the interface meets the requirements of the external parties that supply and receive interfaces.

In order to prepare for interface testing, we are asking payroll locations to make sure they are ready to provide the AUF and PUF files in the MPPI format and are ready to receive the VUF file in the MPPI format. The latest information about the MPPI format can be found at www.dch.georgia.gov/shbp_hpas. Please review it and forward any questions to Carl Line or Patti Polk (contact information found at the end of this issue of Partners). The HPAS Employer Self-Service test site will be available on February 20 to receive and transmit these interface files.

User Acceptance Testing

In addition to providing interfaces for the User Acceptance Testing phase, DCH hopes to enlist the aid of several payroll locations to test the Employer Self-Service Web site. As you are no doubt aware from previous Partners Newsletters, the Employer Self-Service Web site will enable you to more effectively perform healthcare benefits job duties.

Payroll Locations will have access to healthcare eligibility information for everyone in your payroll location and be able to update basic information via the Web site, including entering life events on behalf of your employees if they are unable to do so themselves through the Employee Self-Service Web site. You will also have access to your monthly invoice bills and review accounting information on line. The Web site will also provide basic reporting tools and a conduit for exchanging interface files.

All of these features will need to be fully tested and you are the best people to perform that testing as you the ones who will use the system day in and day out. If you are interested in becoming a "test location" please contact Kenneth Darter or Cheryl Robinson-Smith (contact information can be found at the end of this issue of Partners). In order to fully test all functions of the system, you will need to provide an HR, an Accounting person and a Technical contact. The User Acceptance Testing will start on or around April 17 and last 4 to 5 weeks. Resources will not allow every location to test but we will try to accomodate most requests. In addition to helping us test, you will also get a "sneak peek" of the new HPAS system.

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